

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, line 2 to read as follows:

Connecting tubes 26 having tapered ends are secured to the opposing ends 22, preferably by a weld bead 30 applied by a ~~welder 20a about the welder 28 about the~~ circumference of the edge of the connecting tube 26. The weld bead 30 is preferably applied to the edge of the connecting tube where it overlaps the flange to provide sufficient structural rigidity to the joint. Referring to Figure 3, the outer liner 16 includes a first diameter d_1 that is greater than a second diameter d_2 of the inner liner. The diameters d_1 and d_2 have a difference that provide an air gap of approximately 1/4 inch or less about the circumference of the inner liner 12. While the air gap may be in a range of approximately 1/4 inch to approximately 1/8 inch in one example embodiment, the air gap may be another suitable dimension depending upon the heat generated by the substrate 15 and other variables. The edge of the opposing ends 22 has a third diameter d_3 that is greater than a fourth diameter d_4 of an opening of the connecting tubes 26. The tapered edge of the connecting tubes 26 where the weld bead 30 is applied preferably includes a diameter d_5 that is greater than the third diameter d_3 but less than the second diameter d_2 so that the tapered edge of the connecting tube 26 is located along the flange.